

27 March 1953

Dr. J. D. Watson
Mr. F.H.C. Crick
Cavendish Laboratory
Free School Lane
Cambridge, England

Dear Dr. Watson and Mr. Crick:

I am very glad to have your letter of 21 March, and to see the letter that you are sending off to NATURE.

I think that it is fine that there are now two proposed structures for nucleic acid, and I am looking forward to finding out what the decision will be as to which is incorrect. Without doubt the King's-College data will eliminate one or the other.

We have taken care of the trouble of too small van der Waals contacts in our structure by rotating the phosphate groups. I do not think that the matter of repulsion between the charged phosphates is an important one. I am not saying, however, that I feel strongly that our structure is right, rather than yours.

With best regards, I am

Sincerely yours,

Linus Pauling:W